

IMP

The differences of *impressible* and not *impressible*, figurable and not figurable, are plebeian notions. *Bacon's Natural Hist.*
IMPRESSURE. n. f. [from *impress*.] The mark made by pressure; the dent; the impression.

Lean but upon a ruff,
 The cicatrice and capable *impressure*
 Thy palm some moments keeps. *Shakesp. As you like it.*
To IMPRINT. v. a. [from *imprimere*, French.]
 1. To mark upon any substance by pressure.

One and the same seal, *imprinted* upon pieces of wax of different colours. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*
 Having surveyed the image of God in the soul of man, we are not to omit those characters of majesty that God *imprinted* upon the body. *South's Sermons.*

She amidst his spacious meadows flows;
 Inclines her urn upon his fatten'd lands;
 And sees his numerous herds *imprint* her fands. *Prior.*
 2. To stamp words upon paper by the use of types.

3. To fix on the mind or memory.
 There is a kind of conveying of effectual and *imprinting* passages, amongst compliments, which is of singular use. *Bac.*
 When we set before our eyes a round globe, the idea *imprinted* in our mind is of a flat circle, variously shadowed. *Loc.*
 We have all those ideas in our understandings which we can make the objects of our thoughts, without the help of those sensible qualities which first *imprinted* them. *Locke.*

Retention is the power to revive again in our minds those ideas, which, after *imprinting*, have disappeared. *Locke.*
 By familiar acquaintance he has got the ideas of those two different things distinctly *imprinted* on his mind. *Locke.*

To IMPRISON. v. a. [from *imprisonare*, Fr. *in* and *prison*.] *To shut up*; to confine; to keep from liberty.
 He *imprison'd* was in chains remediless;
 For that Hippolytus' rent corse he did redress. *Fa. Queen.*

Now we are in the street, he first of all,
 Improvidently proud, creeps to the wall;
 And so *imprison'd* and hemm'd in by me,
 Sells for a little state his liberty. *Donne.*

Try to *imprison* the restless wind;
 So swift is guilt, so hard to be confin'd. *Dryden.*
 If a man *imprisons* himself in his closet, and employs reason to find out the nature of the corporeal world, without experiments, he will frame a scheme of chimeras. *Watts.*

It is not improbable, that all the virtual heat in the juices of vegetables, metals, and minerals may be owing to the action of the *imprisoned* rays. *Cheyne's Phil. Princ.*

IMPRISONMENT. n. f. [from *imprisonnement*, Fr. from *imprison*.] Confinement; claufure; state of being shut in prison. It may be written *imprisonment*.

His sinews waxen weak and raw,
 Through long *imprisonment* and hard constraint. *F. Queen.*
 Which shall I first bewail,
 Thy bondage or lost fight,
 Thou art become, O worst *imprisonment*!
 The dungeon of thyself. *Milton's Agonistes.*

From retentive cage
 When fullen Philomel escapes, her notes
 She varies, and of past *imprisonment*
 Sweetly complains. *Phillips.*

Count Serini, still close prisoner in this castle, lost his senses by his long *imprisonment* and afflictions. *Addison.*

It is well if they don't fix the brand of heresy on the man who is leading them out of their long *imprisonment*, and loosening the fetters of their souls. *Watts's Impr. of the Mind.*

IMPROBABILITY. n. f. [from *improbabile*.] Unlikelihood; difficulty to be believed.

The difficulty being so great, and the *improbability* of attempting this successfully, it was but reason that a solid foundation should be laid. *Hammond.*

As to the *improbabilities* of a spirit appearing, I boldly answer him, that a heroic poet is not tied to the bare representation of what is true, or exceeding probable. *Dryden.*

IMPROBABLE. adj. [from *improbabile*, Fr. *improbabilis*, Lat. *in* and *probabile*.] Unlikely; incredible.

This account of party-patches will appear *improbable* to those who live at a distance from the fashionable world. *Addison.*

IMPROBABLY. adv. [from *improbabile*.] Without likelihood.

2. In a manner not to be approved. Obsolete.

Aristotle tells us, if a drop of wine be put into ten thousand measures of water, the wine being overpowered, will be turned into water: he speaks very *improbably*. *Boyle.*

To IMPROBATE. v. a. [from *improbo*, Latin.] Not to approve.

IMPROBATION. n. f. [from *improbatio*, Latin; *improbation*, French.] Act of disallowing.

IMPROBITY. n. f. [from *improbitas*, *improbis*, Latin.] Want of honesty; dishonesty; baseness.

He was perhaps excommunicable, yea, and cast out for notorious *improbity*. *Hooker.*

We balance the *improbability* of the one with the *improbability* of the other. *L'Estrange.*

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To IMPROLIFICATE. v. a. [from *improlificus*, Latin.] *To impregnate*; to fecundate. A word not used.
 A difficulty in the doctrine of eggs is how the sperm of the cock *improlificatus*, and makes the oval conception fruitful. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

IMPROPER. adj. [from *impropre*, Fr. *impropius*, Latin.]

1. Not well adapted; unqualified.
 As every science requires a peculiar genius, so likewise there is a genius peculiarly *improper* for every one. *Burnet.*

2. Unfit; not conducive to the right end.
 The methods used in an original disease would be very *improper* in a gouty case. *Arbutnot on Dia.*

3. Not just; not accurate.
 He disappear'd, was rarify'd;
 For 'tis *improper* speech to say he dy'd;
 He was exhal'd. *Dryden.*

IMPROPERLY. adv. [from *improper*.]

1. Not fitly; incongruously.

2. Not justly; not accurately.
Improperly we measure life by breath;
 Such do not truly live who merit death. *Dryd. Juvenal.*

They assure me of their assistance in correcting my faults where I spoke *improperly*, I was encouraged. *Dryden.*

To IMPROPRIATE. v. a. [from *improprius*, Latin.]

1. To convert to private use; to seize to himself.
 For the pardon of the rest, the king thought it not fit it should pass by parliament; the better, being matter of grace, to *impropriate* the thanks to himself. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

2. To put the possessions of the church into the hands of laicks.

Mrs. Gulton being possessed of the *impropriate* parsonage of Bardwell in Suffolk, did procure from the king leave to annex the same to the vicarage. *Speiman.*

IMPROPRIATION. n. f. [from *impropriate*.]

An *impropriation* is properly so called when the church land is in the hands of a layman; and an appropriation is when it is in the hands of a bishop, college, or religious house, though sometimes these terms are confounded. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

Having an *impropriation* in his estate, he took a course to dispose of it for the augmentation of the vicarage. *Speiman.*

IMPROPRIATOR. n. f. [from *impropriate*.] A layman that has the possession of the lands of the church.

Where the vicar leases his glebe, the tenant must pay the great tithes to the rector or *impropriator*. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

IMPROPRIETY. n. f. [from *improprius*, Fr. from *impropius*, Latin.] Unfitness; unsuitableness; inaccuracy; want of justness.

These mighty ones, whose ambition could suffer them to be called gods, would never be flattered into immortality; but the proudest have been convinced of the *impropriety* of that appellation. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

Many gross *improprieties*, however authorized by practice, ought to be discarded. *Swift.*

IMPROSPEROUS. adj. [from *improspere*, Latin.] Unhappy; unfortunate; not successful.

This method is in the design probable, how *improsperous* forever the wickedness of men hath rendered the success of it. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

Our pride seduces us at once into the guilt of bold, and punishment of *improsperous* rebels. *Decay of Piety.*

Seven revolving years are wholly run,
 Since the *improsperous* voyage we began. *Dryden's Æn.*

IMPROSPEROUSLY. adv. [from *improsperous*.] Unhappily; unsuccessfully; with ill fortune.

This experiment has been but very *improsperously* attempted. *Boyle.*

IMPROVABLE. adj. [from *improve*.] Capable of being advanced from a good to a better state; capable of melioration.

Adventures in knowledge are laudable, and the essays of weaker heads afford *improvable* hints unto better. *Brown.*

We have flock enough, and that too of so *improvable* a nature, that is, capable of infinite advancement. *Decay of Piety.*

Man is accommodated with moral principles, *improvable* by the exercise of his faculties. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

Animals are not *improvable* beyond their proper genius: a dog will never learn to mew, nor a cat to bark. *Grew's Cœlog.*

I have a fine spread of *improvable* lands, and am already planting woods and draining marshes. *Addison's Spectator.*

IMPROVABLENESS. n. f. [from *improvable*.] Capableness of being made better.

IMPROVABLY. adv. [from *improvable*.] In a manner that admits of melioration.

To IMPROVE. v. a. [from *improbo*, Latin.] *Quasi probum facere.* *Skinner.*

1. To advance any thing nearer to perfection; to raise from good to better. *We amend a bad, but improve a good thing.* I love not to *improve* the honour of the living by impairing that of the dead. *Denham.*

Heaven seems *improv'd* with a superior ray,
 And the bright arch reflects a double day. *Pope.*

2. [In and *improve*; *improver*, Fr. *improbo*, Lat.] *To disprove.* Though the prophet Jeremy was unjustly accused, yet doth not that *improve* any thing that I have said. *Whitgift.*

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To IMPROVE. v. n. *To advance* in goodness.

We take care to *improve* in our frugality and diligence; virtues which become us, particularly in times of war. *Atterb.*

IMPROVEMENT. n. f. [from *improve*.]

1. Melioration; advancement of any thing from good to better. Some virtues tend to the preservation of health, and others to the *improvement* and security of estates. *Tillotson.*

2. Act of improving.
 The parts of Sinon, Camilla, and some few others, are *improvements* on the Greek poet. *Addison's Spectator.*

3. Progress from good to better.
 There is a design of publishing the history of architecture, with its several *improvements* and decays. *Addison.*

4. Instruction; edification.
 I look upon your city as the best place of *improvement*: from the school we go to the university, but from the universities to London. *South.*

5. Effect of melioration.
 Love is the greatest of human affections, and friendship the noblest and most refined *improvement* of love. *South.*

IMPROVER. n. f. [from *improve*.]

1. One that makes himself or any thing else better.
 They were the greatest *improvers* of those qualifications with which courts used to be adorned. *Clarendon.*

The first started ideas have been examined, and many effectually confuted by the late *improvers* of this way. *Locke.*

Homer is like a skilful *improver*, who places a beautiful statue so as to answer several vistas. *Pope.*

2. Any thing that meliorates.
 Chalk is a very great *improver* of most lands. *Martiner.*

IMPROVIDED. adj. [from *improvisus*, Latin; *improvisus*, Fr.] Unforeseen; unexpected; unprovided against.

She suborned hath
 This crafty messenger with letters vain,
 To work new woe, and *improvided* catch,
 By breaking off the band betwixt us twain. *Fairy Queen.*

IMPROVIDENCE. n. f. [from *improvident*.] Want of forethought; want of caution.

Men would escape floods by running up to mountains; and though some might perish through *improvidence*, or through the sudden inundation of a deluge, many would escape. *Hale.*

The *improvidence* of my neighbour must not make me inhuman. *L'Estrange.*

IMPROVIDENT. adj. [from *improvidens*, Latin.] Wanting forecast; wanting care to provide.

Improvident soldiers, had your watch been good,
 This sudden mischief never could have fall'n. *Shak. H. VI.*

When men well have fed, the blood being warm,
 Then are they most *improvident* of harm. *Daniel's Cl. War.*

I shall conclude this digression, and return to the time when that brisk and *improvident* resolution was taken. *Clarendon.*

This were an *improvident* revenge in the young ones, whereby, in defect of provision, they must destroy themselves.

IMPROVIDENTLY. adv. [from *improvident*.] Without forethought; without care.

Now we are in the street, he first of all,
Improvidently proud, creeps to the wall;
 And so *imprison'd*, and hemm'd in by me,
 Sells for a little state his liberty. *Donne.*

IMPROVISION. n. f. [from *improvisio*, Latin.] Want of forethought.

Her *improvision* would be justly accusable. *Brown.*

IMPRUDENCE. n. f. [from *imprudens*, Fr. *imprudens*, Lat.] Want of prudence; indiscretion; negligence; inattention to interest.

IMPRUDENT. adj. [from *imprudens*, Fr. *imprudens*, Lat.] Wanting prudence; injudicious; indiscreet; negligent.

There is no such *imprudent* person as he that neglects God and his soul. *Tillotson.*

IMPUDENCE. n. f. [from *impudens*, Fr. *impudentia*, Lat.] Shamelessness; lewdness; immodesty.

I ne'er heard yet
 That any of these bolder vices wanted
 Less *impudence* to gain say what they did,
 Than to perform it first. *Shakesp. Winter's Tale.*

Nor did Noah's open infirmity justify Cham's *impudence*, or exempt him from that curse of being servant of servants. *King Charles.*

Those clear truths, that either their own evidence forces us to admit, or common experience makes it *impudence* to deny. *Locke.*

IMPUDENT. adj. [from *impudent*, Fr. *impudens*, Latin.] Shameless; wanting modesty.

It is not a confident brow, nor the throng of words that come with such more than *impudent* lawfulness from you, can thrust me from a level consideration. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*

When we behold an angel, not to fear,
 Is to be *impudent*. *Dryd. Spanish Fryar.*

IMPUDENTLY. adv. [from *impudent*.] Shamelessly; without modesty.

At once assail
 With open mouths, and *impudently* rail. *Sandys.*

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Why should soft Fabius *impudently* bear
 Names gain'd by conquest in the Gallick war?
 Why lays he claim to Hercules his strain,
 Yet dares be base, effeminate, and vain? *Dryden.*

To IMPUGN. v. a. [from *impugnare*, Fr. *impugno*, Lat.] *To attack*; to assault.

Of a strange nature is the fruit you follow;
 Yet in such rule, that the Venetian law
 Cannot *impugn* you. *Shakesp. Merch. of Venice.*

I cannot think myself engaged to discourse of lots, as to their nature, use, and allowableness; and that not only in matters of moment and business, but also of recreation, which is indeed *impugned* by some, though better defended by others. *South's Sermons.*

St. Hierom reporteth, that he saw one of these in his time; but the truth hereof I will not rashly *impugn*, or over-boldly affirm. *Peachment on Drawing.*

IMPUGNER. n. f. [from *impugnare*.] One that attacks or invades.

IMPUGNANCE. n. f. [French.] Impotence; inability; weakness; feebleness.

As he would not trust Ferdinando and Maximilian for supports of war, so the *impugnance* of the one, and the double proceeding of the other, lay fair for him for occasions to accept of peace. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

IMPULSE. n. f. [from *impulsus*, Latin.]

1. Communicated force; the effect of one body acting upon another. If these little *impulses* set the great wheels of devotion on work, the largeness and height of that shall not at all be prejudiced by the smallness of its occasion. *South's Sermons.*

Bodies produce ideas in us manifestly by *impulse*. *Locke.*

Bodies, from the *impulse* of a fluid, can only gravitate in proportion to their surfaces, and not according to their quantity of matter, which is contrary to experience. *Chyene.*

2. Influence acting upon the mind; motive; idea.
 Mean time, by Jove's *impulse*, Mezentius arm'd,
 Succeeded Turnus. *Dryden's Æn.*

These were my natural *impulses* for the undertaking; but there was an accidental motive, which was full as forcible. *Dry.*

Moses saw the bush burn without being consumed, and heard a voice out of it: this was something, besides finding an *impulse* upon his mind to go to Pharaoh, that he might bring his brethren out of Egypt. *Locke.*

3. Hostile impression.

Like two great rocks against the raging tide,
 Unmov'd the two united chiefs abide,
 Sustain th' *impulse*, and receive the war. *Prior.*

IMPULSION. n. f. [from *impulsion*, Fr. *impulsus*, Latin.]

1. The agency of body in motion upon body.
 The motion in the minute parts of any solid body passeth without sound; for that sound that is heard sometimes is produced only by the breaking of the air, and not by the *impulsion* of the air. *Bacon's Natural History.*

To the *impulsion* there is requisite the force of the body that moveth, and the resistance of the body that is moved; and if the body be too great, it yieldeth too little; and if it be too small, it resisteth too little. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. Influence operating upon the mind.
 But thou didst plead
 Divine *impulsion*, prompting how thou might'st
 Find some occasion to infect our foes. *Milton's Agonistes.*

IMPULSIVE. adj. [from *impulsus*, Fr. from *impulsus*, Latin.] Having the power of impulse; moving; impellent.

Nature and duty bind him to obedience;
 But those being placed in a lower sphere,
 His fierce ambition, like the highest mover,
 Has hurried with a strong *impulsive* motion
 Against their proper course. *Denham's Sobhy.*

What is the fountain or *impulsive* cause of this prevention of sin? It is perfectly free grace. *South's Sermons.*

Poor men! poor papers! we and they
 Do some *impulsive* force obey,
 And are but play'd with, do not play. *Prior.*

IMPUNITY. n. f. [from *impunitas*, Fr. *impunitas*, Latin.] Freedom from punishment; exemption from punishment.

In the condition of subjects they will gladly continue, as long as they may be protected and justly governed, without oppression on the one side, or *impunity* on the other. *Davies.*

A general *impunity* would confirm them; for the vulgar will never be brought to believe, that there is a crime where they see no penalty. *Addison's Freeholder.*

Men, potent in the commonwealth, will employ their ill-gotten influence towards procuring *impunity*, or extorting undue favours for themselves or dependents. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

IMPURE. adj. [from *impur*, Fr. *impurus*, Latin.]

1. Contrary to sanctity; unhallowed; unholy.
 No more can *impure* man retain and move
 In that pure region of a worthy love,
 Than earthly substance can unforc'd aspire,
 And leave his nature to converse with fire. *Donne.*

Hypocrites austere talk,
 Condemning as *impure* what God has made
 Pure, and commands to some, leaves free to all. *Milton.*

2. Unchaste.

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